

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An emoticon input method in a mobile terminal, comprising the steps of:
storing a plurality of emoticons in the mobile terminal;
5 entering an emoticon input mode;
displaying the stored emoticons in an emoticon input mode;
selecting an emoticon; and
storing as part of a short message the emoticon selected by a user.

10 2. The emoticon input method of claim 1, wherein the emoticons are stored
in the form of a bit map.

15 3. The emoticon input method of claim 1, wherein the emoticons are
formed by utilizing a plurality of typical characters and special characters in combination.

4. The emoticon input method of claim 1, further comprising the step of
transmitting an SMS (Short Message Service) message including the stored emoticon.

20 5. The emoticon input method of claim 1, wherein the emoticons are stored
by a manufacturer in the process of manufacturing.

6. The emoticon input method of claim 1, wherein the emoticons are

created and stored by the user.

7. The emoticon input method of claim 1, wherein the emoticons are received from a base station and stored in the mobile terminal.

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8. The emoticon input method of claim 1, wherein the emoticons are downloaded into the mobile terminal from the Internet and stored in the mobile terminal.

9. The emoticon input method of claim 1, further comprising the step of

10 changing and editing the emoticons by the user.

10. An emoticon input method in a mobile terminal, comprising the steps of:

grouping a plurality of emoticons formed by utilizing a plurality of typical characters and special characters in combination and storing the emoticons by groups in
15 the mobile terminal;

entering an emoticon input mode;

displaying the stored emoticon groups;

selecting an emoticon group;

displaying the emoticons of the emoticon group selected by a user; and

20 storing an emoticon as part of a short message selected by the user.

11. The emoticon input method of claim 10, wherein the emoticons are

stored by a manufacturer in the process of manufacturing.

12. The emoticon input method of claim 10, wherein the emoticons are created and stored directly by the user.

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13. The emoticon input method of any of claim 10, wherein the emoticons are received from a base station and stored in the mobile terminal.

14. The emoticon input method of claim 10, wherein the emoticons are 10 downloaded into the mobile terminal from the Internet and stored in the mobile terminal.

15. The emoticon input method of claim 10, further comprising the step of changing and editing the emoticons by the user.

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16. An emoticon input method in a mobile terminal, comprising the steps of: forming emoticons by utilizing a plurality of typical characters; storing a plurality of the emoticons; selecting at least one emoticon from the plurality of emoticons; and transmitting an SMS message including the at least one emoticon selected by a

20 user.

17. The emoticon input method of claim 16, wherein the emoticons are

formed and stored by a manufacturer in the process of manufacturing.

18. The emoticon input method of claim 16, wherein the emoticons are formed and stored by the user.

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19. The emoticon input method of claim 16, wherein the emoticons are received from a base station and stored in the mobile station.

10 20. The emoticon input method of claim 16, wherein the emoticons are downloaded into the mobile terminal from the Internet and stored in the mobile terminal.

21. The emoticon input method of claim 16, further comprising the step of changing and editing the emoticons by the user.